REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 17-32 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 17 and 21 are the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 17, 21, 25, 26, and 27 are amended herein. New dependent Claims 29-32 are added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thoughtful courtesies extended during the telephonic interview held on June 24, 2008. During the interview, Applicant's representative discussed independent Claims 1, 7, 17 and 21 and the references cited against these claims, and Applicant thanks the Examiner for the acknowledgement that the amended independent claims would overcome the rejections over the applied references, as described during the interview and summarized in this response. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed herewith to expedite the prosecution to receive early allowance.

No new matter is believed to have been introduced to the application by this amendment. The changes to the claims are fully supported by the disclosure, including, for example, paragraphs [07], [08], [15], [50], [64], [75] and [78], and FIG. 4.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 17, 21 and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,039,709 (Beadle) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,660 (Anne); Claims 2, 8, 18 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Beadle in view of Anne and U.S. Patent No. 6,999,912 (Loisey); Claims 3, 9, 19 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Beadle in view of Anne and U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0091850 (Perholtz); Claims 5 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Beadle in view of Anne and U.S. Patent No. 7,181,524 (Lele); and Claims 6, 12, 20 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Beadle in view of Anne and U.S. Pat.

Pub. No. 2004/0183831 (Ritchy). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

With reference to particular claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device. The user interface comprises a desktop. The desktop is operative to display at least a first connection icon directly on the desktop. The fist connection icon is for a first application. The first connection icon represents a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device. A user can either select the first connection icon or an active area on the desktop.

Selecting the first connection icon allows a first connection represented by the first connection icon to become modifiable to alter the first connection. Selecting the active area allows a new connection window to appear and, upon designating a new connection, allows a second connection icon for a second application to be displayed directly on the desktop. The second connection icon represents a second connection different from the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device. The first application is different from the second application.

Amended independent Claim 7 is directed to a method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using a user interface. The method comprises the steps of: displaying a desktop; and displaying at least a first connection icon directly on the desktop. The first connection icon is for a first application. The first connection icon represents a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device.

The method further comprises receiving a user selection of the first connection icon. The user selection of the first connection icon allows a first connection represented by the first connection icon to become modifiable to alter the first connection. The method also comprises receiving a user selection of an active area of the desktop. The user selection of the active area allows a second connection icon for a second application to be displayed directly on the desktop. The second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection.

Amended independent Claim 17 is directed to computer-executable program code stored on a computer readable medium. The computer-executable program code is for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using a user interface. The computer-executable program code comprises code for displaying a desktop and code for displaying at least a first connection icon directly on the desktop. The first connection icon is for a first application. The first connection icon represents a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device.

The computer-executable program code further comprises code for receiving a user selection of the first connection icon. The user selection of the first connection icon allows a first connection represented by the first connection icon to become modifiable to alter the first connection. The computer-executable program code also comprises code for receiving a user selection of an active area of the desktop. The user selection of the active area allows a second connection icon for a second application to be displayed directly on the desktop. The second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection.

Amended independent Claim 21 is directed to a programmed computer apparatus for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using

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a user interface. The programmed computer apparatus comprises means for displaying a desktop and means for displaying at least a first connection icon directly on the desktop. The first connection icon is for a first application. The first connection icon represents a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device.

The programmed computer apparatus further comprises means for receiving a user selection of the first connection icon. The user selection of the first connection icon allows a first connection represented by the first connection icon to become modifiable to alter the first connection. The programmed computer apparatus also comprises means for receiving a user selection of an active area of the desktop. The user selection of the active area allows a second connection icon for a second application to be displayed directly on the desktop. The second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection.

The applied references are not understood to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claim 1, particularly with respect to at least the following features:

a first connection icon for a first application and a second connection icon for a second application;

operative to display at least a first connection icon directly on the desktop, the fist connection icon for a first application, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device; and

a second connection icon for a second application to be displayed directly on the desktop, wherein the second connection icon represents a second connection different from the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

By way of illustration, without limiting the scope of the claims, Applicant describes in the application various problems associated with traditional interfaces: "The original desktop shell for

the Microsoft® Windows® family of operating systems, known as Microsoft® Explorer, does <u>not</u> allow a user to add, edit or delete connections between a remote computing device and a local computing device <u>from the desktop shell</u>. For instance, users of applications such as Citrix®, which operates on the Microsoft® Windows® CE operating system, must use a specialized connection manager interface to administer each connection, and <u>existing connections cannot be displayed on the desktop</u>. <u>Since the desktop is the primary interface between the operating system and the user, the user must currently make additional burdensome steps in order to view or edit their connections</u>." Present Application, paragraph [07] (emphasis added). Applicant is the first to solve these problems.

Turning to the applied references, Beadle discloses buttons for Standard 505A, DSL 505B, Satellite 505C, and cable modem 505D on a connection settings graphical user interface (GUI) 500. See Beadle, FIG. 5A. Each of these is merely a generic connection medium, and is <u>not for a specific application</u>. Thus, Beadle does not disclose or suggest <u>a first connection icon</u> for <u>a first application</u> and <u>a second connection icon</u> for <u>a second application</u>.

Furthermore, Beadle's generic connection media (Standard 505A, DSL 505B, Satellite 505C, and cable modem 505D) are <u>not</u> and <u>cannot be displayed directly on the desktop</u>. Beadle's generic connection media are shown on a GUI 500, <u>not directly on the desktop</u>. Therefore, like the prior art described in paragraph [07] of the application, Beadle has the same problems (e.g., traditional methods do <u>not</u> allow a user to add, edit or delete connections between a remote computing device and a local computing device <u>from the desktop shell</u>. Because the traditional connections <u>cannot be displayed directly on the desktop</u>, users must make additional burdensome steps in order to view or edit their connections).

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Anne does not remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Beadle. Anne discloses a PSTN MODEM, an ADSL MODEM, and a CABLE MODEM on a dial-up networking (DUN) configuration graphical user interface (GUI). See Anne, FIG. 3B, col. 5, lines 27-67. Like Beadle, each of Anne's media is merely a generic connection medium, and is not for a specific application. Thus, Anne does not disclose or suggest a first connection icon for a first application and a second connection icon for a second application.

Furthermore, Anne's generic connection media (a PSTN MODEM, an ADSL MODEM, and a CABLE MODEM) are not and cannot be displayed directly on the desktop. Anne's generic connection media are shown on a GUI, not directly on the desktop. Therefore, like the prior art described in paragraph [07] of the application, Anne has the same problems (e.g., traditional methods do not allow a user to add, edit or delete connections between a remote computing device and a local computing device from the desktop shell. Because the traditional connections cannot be displayed directly on the desktop, users must make additional burdensome steps in order to view or edit their connections).

Accordingly, the applied references, either alone or in combination, are not understood to disclose, teach, or suggest the features of independent Claim 1, which is believed to be in condition for allowance. Similar arguments apply to other independent Claims 7, 17 and 21.

The other claims currently under consideration in the application are dependent from independent Claim 1, 7, 17 or 21 discussed above and therefore are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Applicant's undersigned attorney may be contacted at the address and telephone number set forth below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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